



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**®
San Francisco District

Project Map

LONG TERM MANAGEMENT STRATEGY (LTMS)
FOR THE PLACEMENT OF DREDGED MATERIAL IN THE
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

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PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The San Francisco Bay Region, California, has in excess of 5.4 billion dollars of annual economic activity that is directly dependent on deep and shallow draft navigation channels. Annual maintenance of the navigation channels requires the removal of approximately 5 million cubic yards of dredged material. Pending new channel improvements will result in the removal of another 16 million cubic yards in the immediate future. The Long Term Management Strategy (LTMS) was officially implemented in 1990 because historical in-Bay dredged material disposal sites were filling up, there was no designated ocean disposal site, and dredged material disposal at almost any location was becoming an issue of substantial controversy. The Strategy was created as a partnership between Federal and State agencies, navigation interests, fishermen, environmental organizations, and the general public. Primary objectives are to identify and make available acceptable disposal alternatives, and to address the various regional concerns regarding dredging and disposal. The LTMS objectives are being met through a combination of technical and planning studies and development of detailed regional policies shared by all the LTMS participants. The project will result in development of a comprehensive, interagency plan that provides long-term solutions and policies for dredged material disposal in San Francisco Bay.

FISCAL YEAR 03 BUDGET: \$0

PRESENT STATUS: In 1994 the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) designated a deep ocean disposal site. In 1996, the Corps, the EPA, and the State of California implemented a joint agency Dredged Material Management Office (DMMO) for dredging permit processing. The Final LTMS programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was released in October 1998, identifying Alternative 3 as the preferred alternative. Alternative 3 would limit future disposal to 20% in the San Francisco Bay, 40% in the ocean, and 40% for upland beneficial reuse. The Corps' South Pacific Division Commander and EPA's Region IX Administrator signed the Final Record of

Decision (ROD) in July 1999. The signing of the ROD initiated implementation for Federal agencies. After amending the San Francisco Bay and Basin Plans, the State followed suite in FY01. In December 2001, the South Pacific Division Commander, EPA's Region IX Administrator, Chairmen of the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board, Chairwomen of the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission and the Executive Director of the State Water Resources Control Board, as the members of the LTMS Executive Committee, approved the final LTMS Management Plan, directing implementation of the program. Broad support for the Management Plan has been developed using a consensus-based approach and public participation to coordinate management of dredging and dredged material disposal in the San Francisco Bay Region. The Plan is based upon the voluntary efforts of all the interested parties and is supported by enforceable policies to achieve the adopted goals of the LTMS program.

FUTURE EFFORTS: The first phase of implementation will focus on the completion of the Corps Regional Dredge Material Management Plan for San Francisco Bay, with a future project-by-project analysis for "practicability" in terms of fiscal and environmental impacts, that would then be assembled as a regional composite EIS. This effort was initiated in FY02.

LTMS implementation efforts also include the development of upland beneficial reuse sites. The Hamilton Wetland Restoration Project, authorized in the 1999 Water Resources Development Act, is the latest in a series of significant projects being developed to help meet the LTMS disposal goals. Other recent San Francisco Bay dredged material beneficial reuse projects include the Sonoma Baylands Wetland Demonstration Project, the Galbraith Golf Course component of the Oakland Harbor Deepening Project, and the Montezuma Wetlands Restoration Project.

Additional technical studies need to be executed under a separate LTMS Congressional line item to support the integration of regional implementation. Regional Implementation includes the evaluation of dredging operations management to minimize environmental impacts and maximize economic efficiency.